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The Director of Central Intelligence Washington, D.C. 20505

National Intelligence Council

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NIC-02260/84

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

THROUGH:

Chairman, National Intelligence Council

FROM:

Lawrence K. Gershwin

National Intelligence Officer for Strategic Programs

SUBJECT:

Response to Jay Keyworth's Letter on the US SDI, 6 April 1984

Attached for your signature is a response to Jay Keyworth's 6 April letter on support for the US Strategic Defense Initiative. With your concurrence, I will arrange for you to meet with Jim Abrahamson--as stated in the response to Keyworth--to discuss intelligence support to the President's initiative. I recommend that Julian Nall and I join you in such a meeting, should you wish to meet with Abrahamson.

Lawrence K. Gershwin

Lawren X. Ful

Concur; set up a meeting with Abrahamson and have NIO/SP and NIO/S&T attend.

Arrange a meeting without NIO/SP or NIO/S&T attendance.

I do not wish to meet with Abrahamson. Revise my letter to Keyworth accordingly.

Central Intelligence

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SP - 79/84

SUBJECT: Response to Jay Keyworth's Letter on the US SDI, 6 April 1984

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(11Apr84) NIO/SP

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Washington, D. C. 20505

Mr. G. A. Keyworth Science Advisor to the President The White House

Dear Jay:

Thank you for your letter of 6 April. I concur in your view that success in getting the President's Strategic Defense Initiative off to a good start depends on centralized management authority under the Secretary of Defense and a well-explained relationship of the initiative to our arms control and national security interests. Let me assure you that I will give full support to these themes.

The appointment of Jim Abrahamson as director was clearly a good choice. One of his most difficult tasks will be winning Congressional support for this program. My intelligence officers have on several recent occasions briefed Congressmen and their staffs on Soviet strategic offensive and defensive programs, the development of Soviet advanced technologies, and possible Soviet responses to our initiative. These officers have also joined DoD officials in briefing US allies around the world. I plan to continue this form of support. I will also arrange to meet with Abrahamson, as you suggested, to solicit his views on how I may further support the President's initiative.

Sincerely,

William J. Casey
Director of Central Intelligence